



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
Audiology and Speech-Language
Pathology Advisory Committee
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



JOHN J. HOFFMAN
Acting Attorney General

STEVE C. LEE
Acting Director

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45002
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6390

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015 PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES SUSSEX CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR 124 HALSEY STREET NEWARK, NJ 07105

I OPENING STATEMENT AND ROLL CALL

A sub-Committee meeting of the New Jersey Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark on the 6th floor on Thursday, September 17, 2015. Hilda Pressman, Chair of the Committee announced that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed out to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Star Ledger, the Record, the Press of Atlantic City, the Asbury Park Press, and the Trenton Times. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded and no quorum was present:

PRESENT

**Hilda Pressman, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-S
Anne Eckert, Au.D., MBA, CCC-A, FAAA
Gerard Caracciolo, Ed. D., CCC-SLP**

EXCUSED

Nancy G. Schneider, M.A., CCC-A, FAAA

ABSENT

**Chetan Shah, MD
Sharon Shinkle Gardner
Louis Conte, D.O.**

ALSO PRESENT

**Olga Bradford, DAG
Renee P. Clark, Executive Director**

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After review, a recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to approve the July 16, 2015 Public Session Minutes with amendments. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

III OLD BUSINESS

- a. Parents and Teachers- Nancy Schneider submits an inquiry requesting a universal answer from the Committee to provide HeadStart and all the Audiologists who ask if they can provide free hearing screenings for head start programs.

Chair directed this matter be tabled to the next scheduled Committee meeting.

IV NEW BUSINESS

- a. Bob Campanelli, Ethics Officer was scheduled to present the mandatory ethics course. Since half of the Board Members were not present. Chair directed to have Mr. Campanelli come to the next scheduled Board meeting.
- b. The sub-Committee reviewed Assembly No. 4672 which repeals law suspending certain licenses, registrations and certifications for failure to repay student loans.

After review, a recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to support the Bill. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

- c. The sub-Committee reviewed Assembly No. 4497 which prohibits courts and professional boards from denying professional licenses to child support obligors under certain circumstances.

After review, a recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to support the Bill. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

- d. Regulatory Analyst Charles Manning discussed the re-adoption of regulations. A recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to re-adopt the regulations. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

Regulatory Analyst to attend the next scheduled Committee meeting to discuss the process of regulations.

IV NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

- e. Caitlin Ervin submitted an inquiry as to whether it is acceptable to test a patient outside of a test booth and bill for a comprehensive audiogram as long as it is documented in the patient chart.

After review, Chair directed to send Ms. Ervin a letter indicating that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:44C-8.7(b)5 conducting a test in an environment that does not meet nationally recognized standards for maximal permissible background sound from the American National Standard Maximum Permissible Ambient Noise Levels for Audiometric Test Rooms available is considered unprofessional misconduct. If a patient cannot, due to health problems, be moved to a testing environment that meets these standards the licensee shall test the patient within the available environment and the testing conditions shall be documented in the patient's record.

- f. Chair submitted a draft to be added to the Voices Newsletter for Committee review in regards to the changes on the continuing education requirements.

After review, a recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to approve the draft with changes. Chair directed Executive Director to submit this information to colleges. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

- g. Chair submitted legislative information on single licensure for Audiologists and Music Therapist licensure.

The sub-Committee reviewed the article posted on voices in regards to music therapists. Chair directed that Dr. Caracciolo draft a letter as to how its redundant and the Committee's concerns. This matter will be added to the next scheduled Committee meeting agenda.

- h. Anne Eckert and Chair submitted new legislation allowing audiologists to fit and dispense hearing aids without obtaining a hearing aid dispenser license.

A recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to support the change. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

IV NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

- i. Anne Eckert submitted information in a newspaper about Catapult Learning, a continuing education provider.

Dr. Eckert expressed her concerns with Catapult Learning as a continuing education provider since, attendees are able to handwrite their name, course name, hours and date on the certificates. Dr. Eckert informed the Committee that districts are having problems with the provision of services and she is concerned about the accuracy of the information provided and recommends that the Committee reach out to Catapult Learning and request a list of continuing education courses provided since 2011, including title and hours of professional development granted as well as refer them to N.J.S.A. 13:44C6.2 to see what category they fall under. Chair directed to request that Catapult Learning submit the information recommended.

- j. Bill Ezra submitted an inquiry in regards to the continuing education rules for New Jersey, Speech-Language Pathologists.

After review, Chair directed that a letter be sent to Mr. Ezra advising him that only 10 continuing education hours can be completed online.

- k. Chair requested to change the January 21, 2016 to January 28, 2016 since she won't be available and is worried that it will affect the quorum.

A recommendation was made by Dr. Caracciolo, seconded by Dr. Eckert to change the January 21, 2016 meeting to January 28, 2016. This matter will be brought back for ratification by the full Committee.

VI WEBSITE REVIEW

No comments.

VII FYI

- a. Subchapter 5 Abandonment of Application

The sub-Committee reviewed this for informational purposes.

VIII HANDOUT(S)

- a. ASHA'S continuing education registry changes.

The Committee reviewed this for informational purposes.

IV ADJOURNMENT

A recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to proceed to Executive Session, to hold an investigative inquiry, to consider and review advertisements, consumer complaints and other information received pursuant to the Committee's investigative authority in order to determine whether violations of law, including Committee's regulations have occurred. The results of these deliberations will be made known when and if the Committee determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement actions. If the Committee chooses to issue a Uniform Penalty Letter, the action will be taken in Public Session immediately after the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to adjourn the meeting at 2:30p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted

Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee

Renee P. Clark
Executive Director